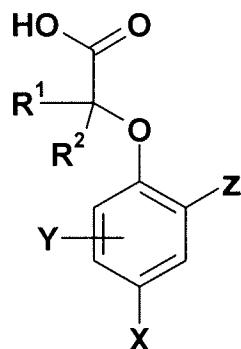


Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



(I)

in which:

X is halogen, cyano, nitro, $S(O)_nR^6$ (wherein n is 0, 1 or 2) or C_{1-4} alkyl which is substituted by one or more halogen atoms;

Y is hydrogen;

Z is phenyl or naphthyl each of which is substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, CN, OH, SH, nitro, COR^9 , CO_2R^6 , SO_2R^9 , OR^9 , SR^9 , SOR^9 , $SO_2NR^{10}R^{11}$, $CONR^{10}R^{11}$, $NR^{10}R^{11}$, $NHSO_2R^9$, $NR^9SO_2R^9$, $NR^6CO_2R^6$, $NHCOR^9$, NR^9COR^9 , $NR^6CONR^4R^5$, $NR^6SO_2NR^4R^5$, aryl, heteroaryl,

C_2-C_6 alkenyl, C_2-C_6 alkynyl, C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl or C_{1-6} alkyl, the latter four groups being optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, C_3-C_7

cycloalkyl, OR⁶, NR⁶R⁷, S(O)_nR⁶ (wherein n is 0, 1 or 2), CONR⁶R⁷, NR⁶COR⁷, SO₂NR⁶R⁷ and NR⁶SO₂R⁷;

R¹ and R² independently represent a hydrogen atom, halogen, C₂-C₆ alkenyl, C₂-C₆ alkynyl, C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl or a C₁₋₆alkyl group, the latter four groups being optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl, NR⁶R⁷, OR⁶, S(O)_nR⁶ (wherein n is 0, 1 or 2);

or

R¹ and R² together can form a 3-8 membered ring optionally containing one or more atoms selected from O, S, NR⁶ and itself optionally substituted by one or more C₁-C₃ alkyl or halogen;

R³ represents C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl or C₁₋₆alkyl which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl, OR⁶ and NR⁶R⁷, S(O)_nR⁶ (wherein n is 0, 1 or 2), CONR⁶R⁷, NR⁶COR⁷, SO₂NR⁶R⁷ and NR⁶SO₂R⁷;

R⁴ and R⁵ independently represent hydrogen, C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl or C₁₋₆alkyl, the latter two groups being optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl, OR⁶ and NR⁶R⁷, S(O)_nR⁶ (wherein n is 0, 1 or 2), CONR⁶R⁷, NR⁶COR⁷, SO₂NR⁶R⁷ and NR⁶SO₂R⁷;

or

R⁴ and R⁵ together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached can form a 3-8 membered saturated heterocyclic ring optionally containing one or more atoms selected from O, S(O)_n (wherein n is 0, 1 or 2), NR⁸, and itself optionally substituted by halogen or C₁₋₃ alkyl;

R⁶ and R⁷ independently represents a hydrogen atom or C₁-C₆ alkyl;

R^8 is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, $-COC_1-C_4$ alkyl, $CO_2C_1-C_4$ alkyl or $CONR^6C_1-C_4$ alkyl;

R^9 represents aryl, heteroaryl, C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl or C_{1-6} alkyl, the latter two groups may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl OR^6 and NR^6R^7 , $S(O)_nR^6$ (wherein n is 0, 1 or 2), $CONR^6R^7$, NR^6COR^7 , $SO_2NR^6R^7$ and $NR^6SO_2R^7$;

R^{10} and R^{11} independently represent aryl or heteroaryl, hydrogen, C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl or C_{1-6} alkyl, the latter two groups being optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, OR^6 and NR^6R^7 , $S(O)_nR^6$ (wherein n is 0, 1 or 2), $CONR^6R^7$, NR^6COR^7 , $SO_2NR^6R^7$ and $NR^6SO_2R^7$;

or

R^{10} and R^{11} together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached can form a 3-8 membered saturated heterocyclic ring optionally containing one or more atoms selected from O, $S(O)_n$ (wherein n is 0, 1 or 2), NR^8 , and itself optionally substituted by halogen or C_1-C_3 alkyl.

2. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 in which X is halogen, cyano, nitro, $S(O)_nR^6$ or C_{1-4} alkyl which is substituted by one or more halogen atoms.

3. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 in which X is trifluoromethyl, nitro, cyano or halogen.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 in which Z is phenyl, which is substituted with one or more substituents as defined in claim 1.

7. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 in which both R¹ and R² are hydrogen or one is hydrogen and the other is methyl or ethyl or both are methyl.

8. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 selected from:

{[5-Chloro-4'-(ethylthio)biphenyl-2-yl]oxy}acetic acid,
{[5-Chloro-4'-(ethylsulfonyl)biphenyl-2-yl]oxy}acetic acid,
[(4',5-Dichlorobiphenyl-2-yl)oxy]acetic acid,
[(5-Chloro-4'-cyanobiphenyl-2-yl)oxy]acetic acid,
[(5-Chloro-4'-methoxybiphenyl-2-yl)oxy]acetic acid,
[(5-Chloro-3',4'-dimethoxybiphenyl-2-yl)oxy]acetic acid,
2'-(Carboxymethoxy)-5'-chlorobiphenyl-4-carboxylic acid,
{[5-Chloro-4'-(methylsulfonyl)biphenyl-2-yl]oxy}acetic acid,
{[5-Chloro-4'-(ethylsulfonyl)-2'-methylbiphenyl-2-yl]oxy}acetic acid,
{[4'-(Methylthio)-5-(trifluoromethyl)biphenyl-2-yl]oxy}acetic acid,
{[4'-(Methylsulfonyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)biphenyl-2-yl]oxy}acetic acid,
{[4'-(Ethylsulfonyl)-2'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)biphenyl-2-yl]oxy}acetic acid,
[[2',5-Dichloro-4'-(ethylsulfonyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[2'-Chloro-4'-(ethylsulfonyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[5-Chloro-4'-(ethylsulfonyl)-2'-fluoro[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-(Ethylsulfonyl)-2'-fluoro-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-acetic acid,
[[5-Chloro-4'-(ethylsulfonyl)-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
2-[[5-Chloro-4'-(ethylsulfonyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-propanoic acid,
2-[[4'-(Ethylsulfonyl)-2'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-
(2S)- propanoic acid,
2-[[4'-(Ethylsulfonyl)-2'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-
(2R)- propanoic acid,
2-[[2',5-Dichloro-4'-(ethylsulfonyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-
(2S)- propanoic acid,
2-[[2'-Chloro-4'-(ethylsulfonyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-
(2S)- propanoic acid,

2-[[4'-(Ethylsulfonyl)-2'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-2-methylpropanoic acid,
2-[[4'-(Ethylsulfonyl)-2'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-butanoic acid,
[[4'-(Ethylsulfonyl)-5-fluoro-2'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-acetic acid,
[[4'-(Ethylsulfonyl)-4,5-difluoro-2'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-acetic acid,
[[4'-(Ethylsulfonyl)-3,5-difluoro-2'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-acetic acid,
[[4'-Amino-2'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-Amino-2'-chloro-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[2'-Chloro-4'-hydroxy-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[2'-Chloro-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[2',5-Bis(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[5'-Fluoro-2'-methoxy-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[5'-Cyano-2'-methoxy-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-Chloro-2'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[2',5'-Dimethyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[5'-Chloro-2'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[2'-Fluoro-6'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-Fluoro-2'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-[(Ethylamino)carbonyl]amino]-2'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-
acetic acid,
[[2'-Methyl-4'-[(methylamino)carbonyl]amino]-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-
acetic acid,
[[4'-[(Cyclopropylamino)carbonyl]amino]-2'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-
yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[2'-Methyl-4'-[(propylamino)carbonyl]amino]-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-
acetic acid,
[[2',4'-Dimethyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[5'-Fluoro-2'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-(Aminocarbonyl)-2'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[3'-Fluoro-2'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,

[[2',5'-Difluoro-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[5'-(Aminosulfonyl)-2'-chloro-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-Cyano-2'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-Chloro-2'-fluoro-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[2',5'-Difluoro-4'-methoxy-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[2'-fluoro-5'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[2'-Fluoro-4'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-Methoxy-2'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-(Aminosulfonyl)-2',5'-difluoro-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-Chloro-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[3'-(1-Methylethyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[3',4'-Difluoro-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-Ethyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[3'-Fluoro-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1':4',1"-terphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-(Trifluoromethoxy)-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[2',3'-Dichloro-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-(1,1-Dimethylethyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[2-(6-Methoxy-2-naphthalenyl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)phenoxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-(Ethylthio)-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-Acetyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[5'-(Aminosulfonyl)-2'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[3'-Cyano-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[2'-Methyl-5'-(methylsulfonyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
2'-(Carboxymethoxy)-5'-(trifluoromethyl)- [1,1'-biphenyl]-3-carboxylic acid, 3-methyl ester,
2'-(Carboxymethoxy)-5'-(trifluoromethyl)- [1,1'-biphenyl]-2-carboxylic acid, 2-methyl ester,
[[5-(Trifluoromethyl)[1,1':4',1"-terphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[3'-Fluoro-2',4'-dimethyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[2'-Nitro-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[2'-Methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[3'-Chloro-2'-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,

[[5-(Trifluoromethyl)[1,1':3',1"-terphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
2'-(Carboxymethoxy)-5'-(trifluoromethyl)- [1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxylic acid, 4-methyl ester,
[[4'-Nitro-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[5-(Trifluoromethyl)-3'-(trifluoromethylthio)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[5-(Trifluoromethyl)-4'-(trifluoromethylthio)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-Methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-Fluoro-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[3'-Fluoro-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[3'-Methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[2'-Fluoro-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[2'-Methoxy-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[3'-Methoxy-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-Methoxy-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[3'-(Ethylsulfonyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[3'-Propoxy-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-Propoxy-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[2-(2-Amino-4-methyl-5-pyrimidinyl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)phenoxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-Cyano-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4',5-Bis(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[2-(2-Naphthalenyl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)phenoxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-(1-Pyrrolidinylsulfonyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-(Dimethylamino)sulfonyl]-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-[[(Phenylmethyl)amino]sulfonyl]-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-[[(2,2,2-Trifluoroethyl)amino]sulfonyl]-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-[[(5-Methyl-2-thiazolyl)amino]sulfonyl]-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-(Phenylamino)sulfonyl]-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-(Diethylamino)sulfonyl]-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-(Cyclopropylamino)sulfonyl]-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,

[[4'-(Aminosulfonyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-[(Methylamino)sulfonyl]-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[[4'-[(4-Methyl-1-piperazinyl)sulfonyl]-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]- acetic acid,
[2-[4-Methyl-2-(5-methyl-1,1-dioxido-1,2,5-thiadiazolidin-2-yl)-5-pyrimidinyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)phenoxy]- acetic acid,
[[2'-Chloro-4'-[(methoxycarbonyl)amino]-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]acetic acid
2-[[2'-Chloro-4'-(methylsulfonyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-(2S)- propanoic acid,
2-[[3'-Cyano-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-(2S)-propanoic acid,
2-[[4'-(Dimethylamino)sulfonyl]-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-(2S)- propanoic acid,
2-[[2'-Chloro-4'-[(dimethylamino)sulfonyl]-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-(2S)- propanoic acid,
2-[[2'-Fluoro-4'-(methylsulfonyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-(2S)- propanoic acid,
[[2',5-Dichloro-4'-(methylsulfonyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-(2S)-propanoic acid,
[[5-Chloro-4'-[(dimethylamino)sulfonyl][1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-(2S)-propanoic acid,
[[2',5-Dichloro-4'-[(dimethylamino)sulfonyl][1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-(2S)-propanoic acid,
[(5-Chloro-3'-cyano[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)oxy]-(2S)-propanoic acid,
[[5-Chloro-4'-[(dimethylamino)sulfonyl]-2'-fluoro[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-(2S)-propanoic acid,
[[5-Chloro-4'-(4-morpholinylsulfonyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-(2S)-propanoic acid,
[[5-Chloro-2'-fluoro-4'-(methylsulfonyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-(2S)-propanoic acid,
2-[[4'-(1-Azetidinylsulfonyl)-5-chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-(2S)-propanoic acid,
2-[[5-Chloro-2'-methyl-4'-(1-pyrrolidinylcarbonyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-(2S)-propanoic acid,
2-[(2',4'-Dichloro-5-cyano[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)oxy]-(2S)-propanoic acid,
2-[[5-Cyano-2'-fluoro-4'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-(2S)-propanoic acid,
2-[(3'-Cyano-5-fluoro[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)oxy]-(2S)-propanoic acid, sodium salt,
2-[(2',4'-Dichloro-5-fluoro[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)oxy]-(2S)-propanoic acid, sodium salt,
2-[[2'-Chloro-5-fluoro-4'-(methylsulfonyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-(2S)-propanoic acid
2-[[2'-Chloro-5-fluoro-5'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]-(2S)-propanoic acid,

[[4'-(Methylsulfonyl)-2',5-bis(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl]oxy]acetic acid, and
[(5-Chloro-3'-cyano[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)oxy]- acetic acid,
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) A method of treating asthma or rhinitis in a patient suffering from, or at risk of, asthma or rhinitis, which comprises administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as defined in claim 1.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 2, in which Z is phenyl, which is substituted with one or more substituents as defined in claim 1.

16. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 2, in which both R¹ and R² are hydrogen or one is hydrogen and the other is methyl or ethyl or both are methyl.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 3, in which Z is phenyl, which is substituted with one or more substituents as defined in claim 1.

20. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 3, in which both R¹ and R² are hydrogen or one is hydrogen and the other is methyl or ethyl or both are methyl.